

FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN'S

VOICE

APRIL 1971

25c



THE SCANDINAVIAN STORY, page four
SWEDEN

APRIL TAPE MINISTRY Phoenix Regional, 1971

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VOICE
VOLUME 19 NUMBER 3

CONTENTS

3 Easter: Door of Hope	18 My Only Necessity
4 The Scandinavian Story	25 VOICE Echoes
12 The Story of U WIN	36 The Reason Why
15 God Gave Us A Miracle!	46 Six Scriptural Steps

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EASTER: DOOR OF HOPE

by

DEMOS SHAKARIAN

President, Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

WHAT DOES EASTER mean to you? To me it is more than a sunrise service, the banks of dew-fresh lillies, vested choirs, and the clear notes of silver trumpets on the hilltop announcing the dawn.

It is even deeper than just rejoicing to remember that Christ arose—victorious over death and the grave—wonderful as that is to remember.

Easter means resurrection and resurrection means a new beginning. It typifies the new birth through the power of the living God that raised up Jesus from the dead in spite of all human opposition and all the efforts of hell to prevent it. Christ arose by the same power whereby old things pass away and all things become new when we accept Jesus as our Saviour.

Because of Easter—because of the resurrection—we have an eternal, living hope. When the angels rolled that stone away from the tomb, God

opened a door of hope to a condemned world. He is opening that same door today to a world that is trying to destroy itself! The hope is there! The door is there! The eternal riches of glory that fade not away are there! And the invitation is still open to whosoever will!

All of these things Christ's resurrection meant to His followers two thousand years ago—and its meaning has never changed or dimmed. We can still today shout triumphantly with the apostle Peter: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy begat us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, unto an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are guarded through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

SWEDEN

by RAYMOND W. BECKER
Editor, Full Gospel Business Men's Voice



Harald Bredesen ministering in State Lutheran Church, Jonkoping.



Swedish soldiers in Nassjo train station.



Ancient castle in city of Drebbo.

Henry Carlson, Airlift Chairman, right. Interpreter is Samuel Edestav, ass't pastor Filadelfia Church, Stockholm. Locale is Stockholm's City Hall.

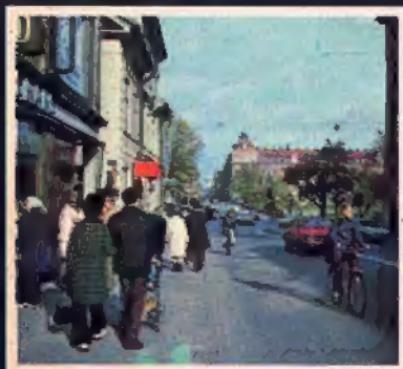
"And take the Sword of the Spirit . . ."

Ephesians 6:17



IT WAS labelled, "Scandinavian Airlift"—but who can properly define the word "Scandinavia?" Geographically, Scandinavia is a peninsula in the north, on which the Norwegians live on the *left*, the Swedes on the *right*. But geographers lack imagination, and any definition of Scandinavia which leaves the Danes out, is useless; and because the Finns have always been regarded as honorary Scandinavians, they must also be included.

But how do Russia and Germany qualify as part of Scandinavia? The answer is simple. The addition of these and a few other countries in the past year or so to what was originally called the "Swedish Airlift," is partly the idea of certain leaders in the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International—and who can blame them? As God began to enlarge spiritual brothers and sisters plied from other areas, "Come over and help us," men with the message of the moment



Street scene in Orebro.



Rural area in Nassjo.

began to push past the original geographical borders, seeking other lands to conquer for Christ.

So it was that on October 1, 1970, a group of 66 persons, comprising mainly American businessmen, several ministers and their wives, and the Editor of the FGBMFI's official publication, VOICE, left Kennedy Airport in New York for Stockholm, on the first leg of a three-week spiritual invasion of "Scandinavia," et al.

The scope of what was accomplished is of such magnitude, that it is necessary to divide the telling of it into two parts, the first to deal exclusively with Sweden, where the burden for his own people first came to FGBMFI International Director Henry Carlson of Chicago; and the second to feature the move of God in Norway, Denmark, Finland, Russia and Germany.

"As Long as the Mississippi"

Sweden is the largest of the Scandinavian countries in both population and size—over 7½ million people on 173,000 square miles of land and water. Its elongated shape, a jocular American visitor once remarked, makes it about as long as the Mississippi River—and just about as wide. Its greatest length, north to south, is 978 miles, practically touching the European continent proper at Denmark and stretching north to well beyond the Arctic Circle. The greatest width is 310 miles.

I have always liked the Swedes.

One of my very best friends in grade school was a boy named Willie Olson—which is about as Swedish as you can get. But my high esteem for these people was heightened even more when I viewed them within their own borders—spotlessly clean, handsome, healthy, well-dressed; hardworking, efficient, honest and reliable.

Christ Makes a Difference

Once again, however, I was cognizant of the same distinction that is evident everywhere—in Sweden as in America—Jesus Christ *does* make a difference! For while most Swedes are inclined toward heaviness of spirit, severity, and lack of humor, this is not true among the believers. While Swedes, generally, tend to plod rather than jump, to walk rather than run, to repress the quick-kindling spark that gives the Danes, Norwegians, and Americans a common spontaneity and joy of living, these natural Swedish characteristics tend to be resolved in Christ. Perhaps this is one evidence of being "a new creature" in Him and/or of being filled with the Holy Spirit. I am thinking in particular of Arnold Axelius, President of the Karlstad Chapter of FGBMFI, who became so exuberant upon receiving his Baptism that he literally ran about the home where we were after-meeting guests of this charming Christian couple, in a decidedly un-Swedish manner—laughing, jumping up and down, and hugging and kissing nearly everybody in sight!



Thirty-eight members of the 66-member 1970 Airlift to Scandinavia, in Kennedy Airport prior to boarding SAS plane for Stockholm.

Psychology Professor Baptized

"Konferens i Stockholm" the brochure read. And so it was that the 1970 FGBMFI Scandinavian Airlift began in earnest, with a two-day conference in the capital city of Sweden. In combined prayer meeting-briefing sessions in the two-year-old, 380-room, sleek-lined Amaranthen Hotel, on Friday and Saturday mornings, introductions were made and leading Full Gospel Business Men's representatives in the various countries extended hearty welcome and outlined the possibilities of ministry in their areas. Henry Carlson, Airlift Chairman, assigned the members to their respective teams and then challenged them and their leaders to expect the impossible to happen, as God went with them, "confirming the Word with signs following."

Among others heard in the initial session were overseas representatives

Robert Pellen, FGBMFI Swedish International Director and the one largely responsible for the Fellowship's progress in Sweden since 1966; Dr. Nils Rohnebaek, of Norway; Raimo Nyberg, of Finland; and Alfred Boesenbaek, of Denmark. It was an occasion for great joy among the airlifters, and served to round out the two-day conference, when it was later reported that Psychology Professor Nyberg and his wife had been filled with the Holy Spirit in their Amaranthen Hotel room before returning to his teaching position in Turku University (Swedish), in Finland.

The men from America upon whose hearts God has laid the burden for revival in this part of the world—Henry Carlson for Sweden, Simon Vikse for Norway, Dick Bonson for Finland, Fran Nelson for Denmark, Clarence Fast for Germany (and all of them for Russia)—were greatly



2.

SWEDEN

1. Four editors: Robert Pellen, ROSTEN; Sverre Larsson, DAGEN; Raymond Becker, VOICE; Ivar Lundgren, DAGEN. Latter is largest Christian newspaper in Sweden.

2. American Evangelist Clair Hutchins and Swedish Baritone Carl Olivebring sing, "Jesus Our Helmsman," in Stockholm's City Hall.

3. About 25 young people were baptized in the Holy Spirit during prayer following FGBMFI meeting in Filadelfia Church, Stockholm.

4. Luncheon in recreation hall of Revelation Lutheran Church, Stockholm preceded afternoon teaching session on today's Charismatic Renewal.

5. Revs. Charles McHatton, John Rae, Harald Bredesen answer audience questions during special session for Lutheran ministers. Interpreter was Terry Donnebauer, 3rd from left.



encouraged at the outset of this airlift, to see the love with which we were received, and the confidence and faith exhibited by all concerned. God was about to do something big—there was no doubt of it!

A Spirit of Unity Prevailed

Those who had been members of previous airlifts to Sweden reported that never before had there been such an absence of national and international barriers. And so on Sunday and Monday, as the groups began fanning out, some to other areas in Sweden and some to other countries, it was agreed that the presence of Christian love and the spirit of unity in the body of Christ was already evident in a very special way.

Before leaving Sweden's majestic capital, the entire group held two services on Friday night in Stockholm's beautiful City Hall, one of the great architectural works of the 20th century. The first meeting began at 7:30 and lasted until 10:00. Rev. Harald Bredeisen followed greetings and testimonies of the businessmen with a pointed message on the Charismatic Renewal currently sweeping the world, and the marble steps leading up to the speaker's dais were lined with seekers at the close. In the Youth Rally which lasted from 10:30 until midnight, Jewish evangelist Arthur Katz, a former Marxist, delivered a stirring message that caused many Swedish young people to dedicate

their lives to Jesus Christ, and to seek Him as their Baptizer with the Holy Spirit.

"Revival Now or Never"

The major theme of the Airlift was expressed during the first service that Friday night in Stockholm by nearly every speaker. It was reiterated time and time again during our three weeks' iteration, in the large cities and in the rural areas. It was a compound theme which, briefly stated, would read something like this: "We bring to you nothing new. We come, rather, with the love of God in our hearts, desiring only to rekindle the feeble, flickering flame that was once a burning, blazing fire in your land, in your churches, and in your hearts—the fire of God's Holy Spirit. We come to encourage you, and to tell you of how that fire is even now sweeping through the historic churches of America and elsewhere—and of how we have seen it burning ever more brightly in your own country in the last five years. We believe that it is now God's chosen time to bring the restoration for which we have long prayed. We believe that a torch burning brightly in Scandinavia is necessary to bring this revival to the other strategic areas of the world before our Lord returns. We come in love, but we come to warn you that it is later than you think—that it may be revival now or never!"



Luncheon meeting in Stockholm, Oct. 3, 1970. Facing camera, from left, Dr. Folke Edsmyr, famous Swedish cancer specialist; Herbert George Ihrig, Jr., Labor Attaché of Embassy of the United States of America; Dr. Raymond Becker, Editor and Director of Full Gospel Business Men's Publications. At microphone, James Hosier, Airlift member, ministers in song.

"The World Is Shrinking"

Henry Carlson stood in the great marble hall and replied to the warm welcome extended to us. He it is who has prayed and worked and given so much to make these airlifts possible.

"I was born in Sweden," he said, "but my parents moved to America when I was but a boy. Somehow I had never had a desire to return to this land. In fact, being twitted by my schoolmates about being a 'Swede' had made life burdensome sometimes. When I finally did return in 1965 on a side trip during the London Airlift, I stood in Goteborg and asked, 'Lord, what was the purpose in my coming here?' Then God's Spirit spoke so definitely to my heart that it was His intention I come to this land, and that He would show me that I was to join with my Christian brothers here to light such a Gospel fire as would give light in the darkness that seems to be closing in on us in these

last days. I knew then my heart would know no rest until I had done everything the Spirit bade me do to press for revival.

"But there is a secret to revival," Brother Carlson continued. "The Bible says that God inhabits the praises of His people, and where God inhabits a place and His glory is there, then the power of God is revealed, the name of Jesus is lifted up, and He will draw all men to Himself. We are so happy to be here and to testify to the glory of the name of Jesus Christ and to join our prayers with yours for the thing uppermost in our hearts—revival.

"The world is shrinking. It is becoming so small that our problems are yours and your problems are ours. In America we need prayer. In Sweden we need prayer. In all these countries we shall visit they need prayer. I do not suppose any of us realize how close the end is, but we

know Jesus is coming soon and it is our responsibility to let the world know. That is why we are here—to join with you in the work of letting all nations and peoples know.

"We bring warmest Christian greetings from all those in America who could not join us on this airlift, but they asked that we assure you of their love and prayers."

The Effective VOICE

Robert Pellen warmly welcomed the airlifters to Sweden. "We are so thankful for this convention," he said, "and this visit from our American brethren. We can truly say that we have had an historical experience when the Lord for the first time opened the pulpits of the great Lutheran churches around Sweden for the message on the Holy Spirit and the charismatic gifts. That is *absolutely something special!* Many have perhaps thought it could not happen, but Christians on two continents have prayed and we know this is an answer to prayer—many years of prayer. The Lord has used the FGBMFI in Sweden, and also our American brothers, in a wonderful way, and doors have been opened that were not open before.

"This is the fifth convention of FGBMFI here," Pellen reminded us. "The first was held in 1966, and then consecutively every year since. The work has spread tremendously, and much of the credit can go to VOICE

magazine and to ROSTEN, its Swedish counterpart, with their testimonies about salvation, the Holy Spirit, the world-wide Charismatic Revival, and about healing. We also had Nicky Cruz here with radio and

Lewi Petrus, Founder of the Filadelfia churches in Sweden and for many years pastor of the headquarters church in Stockholm.



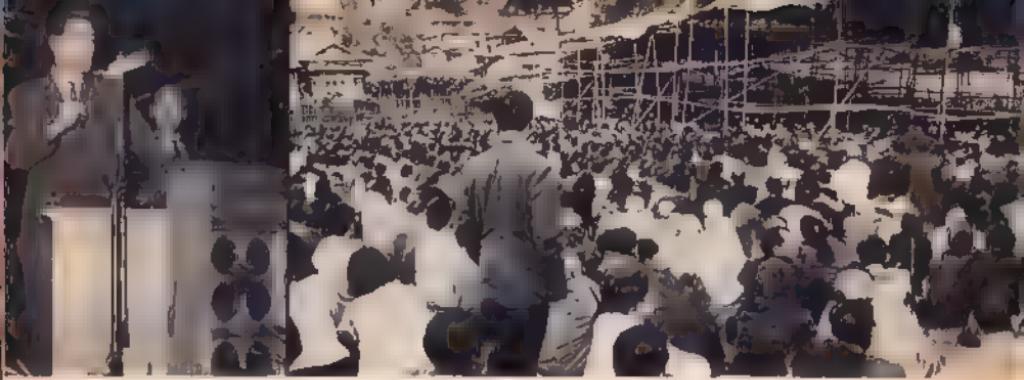
"We are now experiencing wonderful things in Sweden. Some of us have been preaching for many years that the Pentecostal movement should remain free from church organization. We have had the churches against us, but now some of our hardest enemies are the strongest fighters for the new revival.

"I do not believe Christianity should be promoted by 'professionals' but by 'amateurs,' as in the beginning. All believers should be 'priests,' and every person should have the opportunity to give a testimony. For this reason I praise God for the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship; it is an instrument to open the churches to the 'Charismatic Renewal.' "

TV hook-up, and two million people have heard his message.

"Following this convention it is anticipated there will be eight or ten more new chapters of FGBMFI starting. Businessmen are getting together, having luncheon or breakfast meetings, and are coming to me saying, 'Now we are ready to start a chapter.'

"So we feel that our five years of
(Continued on page 29)



RESURRECTION LIFE: THE STORY OF U WIN

WHEN WE AS BELIEVERS are baptized into Christ our sinful and wicked past dies with Him, old things are passed away, and our new creature is raised with Him to new life. As Paul explains clearly in the sixth chapter of Romans we actually participate then in Jesus' Resurrection. Thus every Christian baptism is a reenactment of the Easter story in a person's life, and a living testimony that that story is true. In Jesus Christ *all things have become new*. If Christ was not raised from the dead then we are the most miserable of all men.

I was born into a Christian family and brought up in Mawkhur Presbyterian Church at Shillong, the capital of the State of Assam, India. There were eight children in our family—six boys and two girls. My father was a carpenter, but in spite of a meager income and a big family the Lord blessed and enabled him, by working at extra jobs, to put all of

us in school. His work schedule permitted him but four hours in bed, but later the Lord blessed exceedingly and raised him from an ordinary carpenter to a building contractor.

My father took Jesus as his personal Saviour at the time of the mighty 1905 Welsh Revival, as the spreading waves of it swept our district of Khasi and Jaintia Hills in Assam. It was in that year of 1905 that I was born. I was nicknamed "U Win."

During my childhood I was bedridden for years, but the Lord showed mercy upon me and healed me completely. Because my parents were Christian, naturally we children became Christians. I regret to say that as I grew up I began to learn bad habits such as smoking, stealing money from my mother's purse and then from others, lying, speaking curse words, and mingling with bad company.



Panoramic view of crusade held in Shillong, Assam, India by Rev. Ian North, in which Winto Roy (U Win) interpreted.

by WINTO ROY

My father did not spare the rod of correction, but in spite of his training the bad habits became stronger and finally I ran away from home and went to a village twenty-five miles away. In that village I went to the church one day and was asked to read the Scriptures. They did not know I was a backslider. Slowly I stood up and read the Bible and began to speak. While I was speaking the Holy Spirit preached to me in my heart and said, "My son, return home."

I obeyed and returned home, but the struggle between good and evil went on in my heart. I wanted to live a good moral life, but had no power to do so. One day when I was fourteen I attended a meeting in a local church where a young man preached with the power of the Holy Spirit. I felt so burdened and wanted so much to get rid of my sin, that when the altar call was given I walked to the altar and there Jesus took away sin

and sadness from my heart and I returned home with joy.

However, my father was never happy with my conversion into the church of that young preacher. I felt badly. I was not happy to obey my father's order. The joy and happiness began to fade. It did not take long for me to slip back into the old life.

For many years I was without God, without hope, without church, and without Christ in my life. My father spent many years interceding for me. One day he persuaded me to come back to the church. I had in the meantime taken a wife without the knowledge or consent of my father or my church. My wife and I now returned and we were married in the church and once more joined the same church from which I once was excommunicated because of my sinful life. We were very happy in the church for a year until I slipped back into sin and was again excommunicated.

I drifted deep down into sin and deserted my wife and our two lovely children. I spent all my pay in liquor shops while my wife had to earn her livelihood selling vegetables in the market and sometimes working as a common day laborer. My prestige was gone, my clothes dirty, life frustrated, and I was out of society and out of the church.

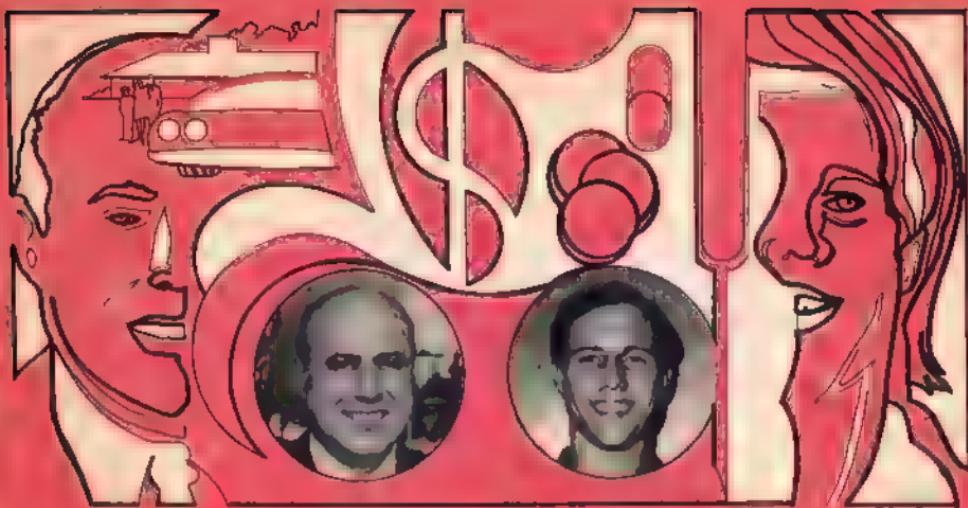
Then one day I knelt at the altar of the church where I had met Jesus fifteen years before. God graciously met me and gave me assurance that my sins were forgiven. Joy was in my heart, the universe seemed to have become new, and even the air I breathed seemed sweeter. Soon the news spread that U Win was saved in J.J.M. Nichol Roy's meeting. My father could not believe that his prodigal son had returned. Over and over he asked those who carried the good news to him. But when he heard that I had been baptized in water in Nichol Roy's church he was very grieved and said, "My son, you have injured my heart. Why do you take baptism again when you were once baptized in your childhood? You have committed a great sin." Patiently I explained to him the truth of Paul's words on this matter: If we are dead with Christ we shall also live with Him (Romans 6:8). The Easter message was not limited to a time long ago. *It was happening right then in my life.* In love I explained to my

father that the old man (U Win) had died and been buried in baptism with Christ, and that I was now raised up in newness of life.

I did not hesitate to obey when the Holy Spirit bade me make restitution to those I had injured and defrauded. I had to put things right with both God and man. One day I went to my wife, with tears in my eyes, fell on my knees and touched her feet, and begged her forgiveness. Tearfully she responded, "I forgive you because God has forgiven you." God was so good! When I confessed to the officer that I had defrauded, instead of sending me to jail he pardoned me and instructed me to put into the flood relief fund in Assam the amount I had taken.

Later the Lord baptized me in the Holy Spirit and gave me power to be His witness. One of my greatest joys came when my father, observing the fruits of my conversion, also believed.

The remaining day of my life I am spending for my loving Redeemer, witnessing to His saving and keeping power. It is now ten years since I retired from Government service. Four of our five sons and one of our two daughters are now married. God is keeping me under the blood, and I know He will keep me until I meet Him face to face. I am presently ministering in the Christian Revival Centre in Assam, India.



GOD GAVE US A MIRACLE!

by IRV KESSLER

Vice President, Liberty Records, Inc.

GOD GAVE US A MIRACLE! Because of this miracle, I am now a Hebrew-Christian—a completed Jew. It all came about through my son David being involved in a series of tragedies resulting from his very serious drug addiction problem.

David was on drugs from the age of fifteen through eighteen. He was surely dying before our very eyes and there was nothing humanly possible that we could do to stop it. He had taken all kinds of drugs over these three years, including marijuana, methedrine, seconal, LSD and finally heroin. He was taking as many as 30 seconals a day, enough to kill any-

one, but had built up a resistance to this drug. We had taken David to doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists and group therapy but nothing seemed to work with him. My son led a clean life and had been an all-star baseball player in the Little League. He was just like any other kid that belongs to a normal American family, but now he was heading for the grave because of his drug addiction.

David was arrested many times as a juvenile for being under the influence of narcotics and had spent time in Juvenile Hall. The culmination of these arrests came on the first

Friday night in October, 1969. He was home in our kitchen with about \$30.00 worth of heroin in his possession. My twenty-year-old daughter was also home. I was visiting someone in Burbank where my little boy was spending the weekend with friends. My wife, a registered nurse specializing in cardiac care, was working that night at the hospital. The drug problem in our family caused this wonderful woman to attempt suicide twice. Once she tried to run her car off a cliff, but failed; the second time I wrestled a butcher knife away from her in our kitchen.

Because David was without his hypodermic needle and under the influence of seconal at the time, he took an eyedropper, broke off the end and started to file it down to a point. He was going to try to inject that heroin into his vein with this eyedropper. Had he been successful one of two things would have happened—he would have either overdosed or bled to death.

Seeing what David was trying to do, my daughter called my wife at work. My wife immediately called the police, giving them permission to break into our house and arrest David. The very moment she was calling the police I was in Burbank visiting a lady whose brother-in-law had been helped by a narcotic rehabilitation organization called Teen Challenge, of which I knew nothing. Previously we had tried everything

to help him, and were now at the end of the road. Upon hearing about Teen Challenge I thought perhaps this might be the last chance to help him and at that moment I called my wife at the hospital. As I spoke to her about Teen Challenge she interrupted to tell me the news about what had happened with David at the house and that she had called the police. I raced out the Ventura

He took an eye-dropper, broke off the end and started to file it down to a point.

Freeway to my house to try and save my son from the police, not even knowing what I would have done had I reached him before they did. It is a natural instinct for parents to protect their children.

When I arrived at my house, there were four police cars parked in front and about fifty people on the lawn. Not until I started walking up the driveway did I realize I didn't know whether my son was dead or alive in that house. When I walked into the kitchen there he was on a kitchen chair with his hands handcuffed behind him. Four officers stood around him while four more officers combed the house for additional drugs.

Peering up at me from under all of his long hair and under the influence of narcotics, David looked like a terrified animal. He was thin, emaciated and even looked as if he had a touch of hepatitis. He was crying and when he saw me he pleaded, "Dad, please help me!" I must admit that in that moment I felt more helpless than at any time in my life. I did not know what to do for my son. A

had a breath in her body she would try to find a way to save our son.

That night they took David to the West Valley police station and then moved him to the Van Nuys jail for transfer to county jail on Monday morning. Because he had turned eighteen in August, 1969, two months earlier, he was now booked as an adult. We let him stay in the Van Nuys jail Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday.

Sunday night something possessed me to telephone the sister of the woman in Burbank who had told me about Teen Challenge. My wife and I talked to her sister, Sharon, for about an hour. She told us about how her husband had been helped at Teen Challenge and we told her what had recently happened to David, although she already knew about some of his problems through my communication with her sister. When Sharon heard that our son was going to the county jail on Monday, she proceeded to tell us about the many times her husband had been in and out of that same jail for burglary, robbery, and narcotic offenses. At the close of our telephone conversation we knew one thing—that no matter what David had done, county jail was not the solution to his problem.

Sharon said that if we could get him out of jail and take him to the Cucamonga Teen Challenge Center (she had already talked to Cliff Mor-

(Continued on page 26)

***Peering up at me
from under all of his
long hair, David
looked like a
terrified animal.***

coward, worried about what my friends and associates would think of me if they found out that I had a son on drugs, I ran away from the problem instead of trying to solve it. I had allowed my wonderful wife to bear the brunt of this ugly situation because I had given up all hope of ever helping my son. I loved my boy, make no mistake about it, but I was also very self-centered and concerned about my image. Outwardly I hated my son for what he was doing to me and my family, but down deep in my heart I was breaking up into a million pieces because I loved him so very dearly. My wife never gave up—she always said that as long as she



Jim McLendon ministers to U.S. servicemen overseas during 1970 Scandinavian Airlift.

ANY ONLY NECESSITY

by JAMES A. McLENDON

YOU DO NOT need *that*; you need *me!*" Something within me reacted immediately when, alone in my apartment and preparing my habitual drink one evening, I heard an audible Voice make that astounding statement. A few seconds later I found myself pouring the quart of Vodka

down the drain! In that instant I lost all desire to drink, and, although I didn't understand what had happened, I knew a severe problem had been lifted from my life. And yet I was not a Christian nor did I immediately become one as a result of this miraculous deliverance.

By way of retrospection I must admit that although raised in a family that attended church, I saw no reality of Christianity in existence in our neighborhood church. Consequently, church life had no practical importance to me as a youth. After leaving home to attend college for one year and then to complete military service for three years, I fell away from religious life entirely.

During Marine Corps training I had a sensation of realizing that there was a presence of God on two occasions. As a part of a training exercise, while making a beach landing, I slipped sideways off of the wet ramp of the landing craft and fell to my hands and knees under water. Carrying a heavy radio pack on my back prevented me from getting up. I felt someone assist me; but as I regained my feet, there was no one near. As I ran up the beach to catch up with my outfit, I wondered how I had gotten up out of the surf. On another training exercise, as we were flying in a helicopter, I squatted in the open doorway, as was our procedure, to be prepared to disembark quickly once we landed. The other men lined up behind me, ready to follow me out. Suddenly, the pilot made a sharp turn which threw everyone off balance. The man behind me fell into my pack and this pushed me out of the helicopter. I landed in cactus and was knocked unconscious. Although I was badly bruised and stuck with

cactus, I was quite amazed to be alive, let alone not seriously hurt. As a result of these experiences I felt an awareness of God but did nothing about it at that time.

After being associated with drinking people and living away from a spiritual atmosphere for four years, I returned home an alcoholic. During my absence my parents had received Christ into their lives and had grown in their faith. When I returned home, they spoke of people being healed and speaking in tongues. I considered them to be fanatical.

My drinking became so bad that I drank out of a vase instead of a glass, and I became accustomed to drinking to the point of unconsciousness each night. As my drinking worsened my family and their friends prayed for me. I thank God for a mother who prayed; because as I mentioned previously, it was while preparing an evening drink that I heard a Voice that caused me to lose all desire for alcohol from that moment on.

On June 6, 1965 my wife, Elayne, and I went to Faith Tabernacle in Chicago for the first time to tape the service as a favor for my mother. We sat in the control room because we weren't interested in attending church but had simply gone to record the service. As Derek Prince spoke, however, God dealt with my heart, and when the altar call was given, I found myself running down the stairs from the control room to the altar.

As I prayed I asked Jesus to forgive my sins and to become my personal Lord and Saviour. Suddenly I had a vision which conveyed me back to a high place from which I watched myself pray at the altar. The scene changed, and I looked upon an old deserted house abandoned to decay, filth, and neglect. As if in a flashback I watched the sins of my life being paraded before my eyes and I cried out to God as I realized that the decay, filth, and neglect reflected my own spiritual condition. As I asked Jesus to forgive my sins, I saw a complete housecleaning occur. With the debris removed I saw the cottage restored and sparkling in the sunshine. As the vision faded I returned to my form at the altar. While I prayed I felt the weight of fear, doubt, frustration, tension, and sin being swept away as Jesus answered my prayer. I felt so clean and free, and had never known such a feeling of relief in my life. As I concluded my prayer I heard Dr. Prince say that we should remain to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, a gift from God that was intended for every believer.

While praying to receive this experience, I felt a hand on my shoulder and suddenly wanted to worship God and tell Jesus that I loved Him. I felt such peace, and the joy and love of God flooded over me until I just burst forth praying aloud in another language. I felt the hand lift off of

my shoulder and at the same moment my language changed and I saw a Japanese man walk away from me with his hands raised in the air praising God. I continued to pray in tongues for an hour and a half.

Elayne had also asked the Lord into her life that evening. How wonderful it is that Jesus reached us both at the same time. We were truly born again, for our lives began to change. Within a month we were attending the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International Convention at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago. Elayne went to the meetings in spite of a painful illness which involved several large open sores in her mouth. During an afternoon meeting I noticed that she was praying. Then she stood up and told me that she was going to leave because the pain was becoming too great. I asked her to let me see, and I watched as the open sores healed over before my eyes as the result of her prayer.

At that convention we learned that God can use us as instruments of accomplishing His will, when after an evening meeting, we met a lady who had been seeking the baptism in the Holy Spirit for thirteen years. I described to her how she would receive the Baptism later that evening before going to sleep. I felt very badly afterward and wondered why I had told her that, since I knew nothing about the gifts or the workings of the Holy Spirit. The next day we



"There were immediate answers to prayer when I prayed for others."

learned that she had received her Baptism just as I had prophesied she would!

A few days after the convention God moved us to action during a monthly FGBMFI dinner. He impressed me to give support to a work involving drug addicts which was being done at Faith Tabernacle in Chicago. Almost as surprising is the fact that we obeyed and began to contribute money to help in this ministry. I had never given tithing a thought, being concerned only with *making* money, not *giving it away*. After six years on my job I was making \$5,520 a year. When we began to tithe, our circumstances began to change. During the five months that followed we contributed \$2,500 in offerings. During the same period of time, I changed jobs and noticed that while we had given away \$2,500 I was now making so much greater income that by the end of the year we had made a profit! God will be indebted to no man, and we found that this principle is in operation when

you are obedient to God.

During this time we found it necessary to do extensive repair and remodeling work at our home. This included replacement of the heating, plumbing, and electrical systems. All of this work involved things of which I had no experience or knowledge. To this day I know that in myself I haven't the knowledge to do this type of work, but God answered prayer and guided me to a successful completion of it as I looked to Him for help.

After eight months of working daily almost without exception each evening and on weekends, I arrived at the day when I would install the last new pipes which would complete the new plumbing and heating systems. I had been doing this work daily for months which included sweating in copper pipes with a torch and solder. On this occasion, as I was working overhead, molten solder dropped into my eye and I could feel it spread out and burn. As I stepped down from the ladder, Elayne ran to me and we prayed. Because I had acid flux and pipe compound all over my hands, Elayne led me to the laundry tubs to wash my hands. I could feel the solder burning my eye and turning back to hard metal as it cooled. The pain was so intense that we stopped to pray again.

I called our doctor who told me that the damage was done and that I should call an eye specialist. As I

removed the piece of solder from my eye, pieces of flesh came off with it. I washed out my eye and returned to my work. Three days later I considered it prudent to have my eye checked so I called the eye doctor who met me at the hospital. After he had examined my eye and made tests I showed him the piece of solder and the literature which lists the chemical composition of the paste with instructions to avoid contact with the skin. Judging from his reaction I can only assume that he did not believe what I told him, because he said there was nothing wrong with my eye. He merely said that it looked irritated!

God has continued to deal in my life. I had smoked as much as five packages of cigarettes a day. I enjoyed it and didn't really want to quit smoking; but it became a barrier to my spiritual growth, and a spiritual battle ensued. One night during the spring of 1968, God spoke clearly to me in the Spirit saying: "I am not going to take this away from you as I did the drinking. You will have to want the things of God more than you want cigarettes." I went on a fast for the first time in my life. I could stop eating for ten days but I could not stop smoking. I was smoking on the plane on the way to the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship convention in Beverly Hills, California on July 1, 1968. During the first meeting I cried out in prayer and asked Jesus to

grant me deliverance from smoking. I haven't smoked since! I had been seeking God for a greater involvement in the moving of His Holy Spirit. Two days later my heart was blessed to see immediate answers to prayer when I prayed for others. There is nothing quite like the blessing one receives as a result of being in tune with the moving of the Holy Spirit.

I was privileged to participate in the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship airlifts to Scandinavia in 1969 and also last year. In 1969 our team engaged in meetings in West Berlin, East Berlin, Hamburg, and Stockholm. We established contact with some American servicemen in West Berlin. After our first meeting one of the servicemen received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. This drew others when they heard what God was doing. I was thrilled to see their hunger for God as they began to gather in a home seeking the Baptism. When I inquired one evening I found men from Baptist, Church of God, Congregational, Methodist, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic churches. Every man there that evening received the Baptism. I shall always cherish the memory of this trip, and of the one last October as well, for the many times that I witnessed the joy that came into people's lives as they experienced an instantaneous answer to prayer and were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

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We continue to enjoy the articles contained in your little magazine. We only wish it was as big as many others that come to our door monthly, but it is packed with so many wonderful stories of the working of God in today's hungry hearts.

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The VOICE is the most fascinating full gospel magazine I have ever read. It thrills me when I read the testimonies of denominational Christians telling how they were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost.

—P. B., Toronto, Ontario, Canada

I don't want to miss one copy of VOICE. It is a wonderful little magazine, I'm not ashamed to say that I cannot read even one of the testimonies clear through without crying, because it makes me so hungry for what those folks are talking about. I'm so heart-hungry for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

—J. B., Huntington Park, California

I have found VOICE magazine most inspiring. The Lord saved me December 15, 1936, and I have been active in many branches of soul-winning work, at rescue missions, street meetings, hospital visitation, tract distribution, Christian Business Men's Committee of Chicago, etc. However, He did not give me the full gospel message until last fall when Brother Harold Spong, whom you may know, left a copy of VOICE on my desk without comment.

—C. R. E., Chicago, Illinois

In addition to giving the VOICE personally, we put them in parked cars at the shopping centers and are very glad to see the Six Scriptural Steps to Salvation printed in each issue.

—L. & A. S., Hawthorne, California

I just love this magazine and earnestly look forward to each copy. VOICE is always an encouraging lift to the soul.

—J. A. R., Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

Have enjoyed VOICE so much, almost more than any other magazine. I wish my subscription to be renewed and want three others to enjoy this magazine.

—Mrs. R. J., Reno, Nevada

GOD GAVE A MIRACLE

(Continued from page 17)

rison, the director), they would interview him on Monday. This was our last hope so we made the decision to bail him out.

That Monday I shall never forget at Teen Challenge in Cucamonga. Walking into the reception house I thought that the boys must have just come out of chapel for they all had Bibles in their hands. Their hair was cut short and neat and they were clean-shaven. They just radiated with warmth and friendship. Seeing that we were strangers they shook my hand, saying, "Praise the Lord; praise the Lord."

I had never heard that expression before and did not know what they were talking about. However, following that old adage, "When in Rome, do as the Romans," I answered, "Yes sir, praise the Lord, brother."

They interviewed my wife and myself for about forty-five minutes. Manny Gonzales, a former addict for about eighteen years told us, "If David sincerely wants help down deep in his heart, we will take him. But I now must talk to him to find out." These counselors having been addicts themselves, cannot easily be fooled; they can spot a phony a mile away if he is trying to play games with them.

My wife and I went out on the

IN MEMORIAM



James Galligan, Portland, Oregon businessman, was called home January 30. He was a long-time member of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, and served faithfully for many years as President of the Portland Chapter.

The memorial service held in the Portland Foursquare Church was marked by a noticeable move of God's Spirit, as the many friends and loved ones in attendance were reminded of the innumerable blessings the Lord had brought to them through the zealous and untiring ministry of His servant, Jim Galligan.



Robert Fergus, Wilmington, N.C. businessman, went to be with the Lord December 29. Known for his burden to see servicemen in particular receive the Full Gospel message, Bob was the first of three contributors in the 1969

FGBMFI World Convention in Washington, D.C., with his gift of \$1,000 toward publication of the book, "Voices of the Military."

Mr. Fergus was a member of the 1970 Scandinavian Airlift (see photo, page 7). He spent the greatest part of the three weeks ministering in Norway under the direction of team leader Simon Vikse.

porch while Manny and David talked. Never had I heard such loud singing and hand clapping as was coming from the house across the street, which I later learned was serving as their chapel. This was my first exposure to such things, and I remarked to my wife, "Marion, I believe we are involved with 'holy rollers.'"

David came out in about an hour with Manny, who said, "I think David really wants help. We will take him." At that time there were only two beds available at Cucamonga Teen Challenge because this is such a very busy place. There was a boy coming in from Bakersfield, California to fill one bed. I now know that God had saved the remaining bed for my son. We had packed a bag for him and put it in the trunk of our car in the hope that something would happen that day. I tell you in all sincerity that if we had had to take him away from the center that Monday morning I do not know where we would have gone with him. All the money in the world would not have saved my son's life. We would have taken him back home to certain death; but the Lord had other plans for David.

He came to trial one month later in the Van Nuys courtroom. It was planned that I would pick him up about a quarter to six on the appointed morning. At the beginning of the fourth week, having had no conversation with him for three weeks, I called him up.

"Dad, I have a surprise for you," he said.

I had not heard him use that word "surprise" in at least three years. "Dave, if it is good news please tell me now because your mother and I certainly could use it."

"No, when you get out here I will tell you about it." For that week we were on pins and needles. When I got out there at six o'clock on the morning of the trial they brought him down into the kitchen. He did have a surprise. First of all, he had a haircut. Also, he had put on at least ten to fifteen pounds. I hardly recognized him. At that point, the trial ceased to worry me even though David had three felony charges against him. I was so overjoyed at his physical appearance.

Once in the court I stopped our attorney in the lobby. "Loren," I said, "something revolutionary has happened to David in thirty days." With that, I gave him some of the Teen Challenge literature. "I am going to have to point him out to you," I said.

When he saw David in the courtroom, he said, "I simply can't believe it!"

Upon my insistence that it really was David, the lawyer shook hands with him and said, "When this case is called I will ask the judge for a conference in chambers and, in view of the present circumstances, request clemency." *Continued next page*

Two hours later, after the case was called, he came out of chambers saying, "Everything is fine; there will be no trial." I will never forget that moment. On the way home David asked, "Dad, would you mind stopping at that store across the street?" I took a look to where he pointed, then took a second look. "What are you going to do over there?" I asked, for the sign read Valley Book and Bible Store.

"I want to buy a Bible." I almost ran the car into the concrete island in my haste to turn around and go back. While David talked to the saleslady, my wife and I walked to the front of the store and cried like babies. It was then that we realized something wonderful had come into his life.

In the middle of December, 1969, a month later, I witnessed the water baptism of my son in the First Assembly of God Church in Pomona, California. One would think that I, a Jew and non-Christian, would be vitally opposed to something like this. Instead, it was the proudest moment of my life! I knew that my boy had found something that I did not have, and I was actually a little jealous.

A week and a half afterward, following one of the Teen Challenge functions, David asked me, as he had so many times before, "Dad, have you accepted Christ as your Saviour yet? Do you know the Lord?"

It was near Christmas. When I looked at him in that lobby it was just as if there were two spotlights coming out of his eyes. They shone like diamonds. I threw my arms around my son and kissed him, saying, "Yes Dave, I have found Him." So it was, that in December of 1969 I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal Saviour. This experience paved the way for the happiest New Year I have ever known. I was now a Hebrew-Christian.

The next Father's Day, June 21, 1970, David and my family gave me what is now one of my prize possessions—a Bible. On the flyleaf he had written the scripture, Luke 15:20, "And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him." How beautifully that parable describes how I feel about my son and the graciousness of God in David's life and mine!

In the fall of the same year the Lord called my precious wife to be with Himself. He had graciously allowed her to witness the healing of her son, and the conversion of her husband. In her going God was able to bring a powerful testimony of His ability to redeem to all our Jewish relatives and friends. The Teen Challenge young people from all of Southern California shared with us in her last services. Surely our God is a very present help in time of need. ☺

SWEDEN

(Continued from page 11)

work is coming to fruition," Brother Pellen concluded. "One evidence to me is that when Harald Bredesen and I went to a Lutheran Cathedral to speak and Rev. Bredesen asked the minister if he could give an altar invitation at the close, the minister replied, 'For this reason you are here, that the people shall meet the Lord. Naturally you shall give the invitation.' The altars of that Lutheran Cathedral were filled with seeking people!"

Since I returned to the States, five interested parties have contacted us concerning their burden to see VOICE translated into the language of their own countries, namely Norway, Denmark, Germany, France and India. The Fellowship is aware of the great hunger for good full gospel testimonies in other areas of the world, and is now making definite plans to meet this need.

"Their Zeal Is Tremendous!"

Dr. John Rae, formerly on the staff of Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, but now enjoying a Spirit-filled ministry, headed a team of six which operated largely in and around Goteborg, second largest city in Sweden, and its greatest seaport.

"This is my fourth trip to Sweden, and my second with the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International," he testified. "I was in Sweden in 1966, and therefore have a basis for comparison. I can tell you that it is tremendous to see what God has done and is doing. We draw very close to the point just before the coming of the Day of the Lord, and people are offering themselves when they see God's power in action and when there is a manifestation of His holy joy. This fact is evidenced in the enthusiasm and the dedication—especially of the young people."

"The Swedish businessmen banded together and arranged some 40



Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Board in Sweden, with Robert Pellen, Int'l. Director, left.



FGBMFI's George Svensson in action in Christian youth center, Goteborg, Sweden.

meetings for us in 12 days. Their zeal is tremendous! They also provided transportation to and from the meetings. We were privileged to speak in Mission Covenant, Baptist, Methodist and some beautiful State churches (Lutheran), as well as at luncheons, dinners, breakfasts, and anywhere we stopped moving long enough for a crowd of eager listeners to gather around.

Seeking the Fullness

"In one of the main Lutheran churches in Goteborg, following the message of Rev. Bredesen, whose background is of that faith, three Lutheran girls came forward. One was a State Church deaconess who had arranged the entree into that church by calling the Bishop. She and another girl, both dedicated to Christ and hungry for the Baptism, were prayed for that night. Of course, with their background, they weren't going to accept anything lightly; they had to be sure.

"The following Thursday," Dr. Rae continued, "they met with us for a luncheon meeting in a youth center

run by one of the Full Gospel Business Men, George Svensson. In this building, situated in a restful park called Nya Bjorngardsvillan, college students can study, and live if they wish. While there they are also offered opportunity to hear the full gospel message. That day the two girls asked for prayer that they might come to know the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

"Sunday morning they went to their own little State Church chapel and asked God to send His Holy Spirit upon them. One of them, Ingrid, felt a great wave of joy wash over her and she began to laugh. They had not been taught of holy laughter or laughing in the Spirit.

"On Wednesday afternoon, at another luncheon in the youth center, when Henry Carlson, Dr. Becker and several other airlift members joined us, all in our group gathered around these young ladies to pray that they might have a *complete* release of the Spirit in their lives. That prayer was answered that very night, when in a Methodist Church, following a testi-

(Continued on page 32)

FGBMFI WORLD CONVENTION

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JULY 4-9, 1971

The awareness of Christians around the world concerning the Second Coming of Christ is greater now than at any time in the history of the Church. Events in the Near East fulfill the prophecy of the Word, according to many Bible scholars and students of current events.

The moving of the Holy Spirit and a hunger for a more ecumenical relationship between the various denominations has been dramatically demonstrated around the world—in Scandinavia, Europe, South Africa, the South Pacific, Israel, and South America.

The 1971 World Convention of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship is for one purpose, to better equip and inspire God's people to a greater ministry of personal evangelism. Not a ministry of obligation, but of inspiration and compassion through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

I cordially invite you and your family to attend. You will return a different person for having come. Your friends, whether nominal or devout, will have a greater awareness of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life.

DEMOS SHAKARIAN



President, Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

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SWEDEN

(Continued from page 30)

mony given to youth by a Jewish evangelist, Arthur Katz, these two Lutheran girls found full release and spoke in tongues! They later confided that they were so happy they couldn't sleep all that night."

Hunger for Sound Bible Teaching

In the opinion of Dr. Rae these people long for more teaching on the subject of the Baptism. The Lutherans want sound Bible teaching on anything before they will accept—and that is well, because all things that are of God will always square with His Word. But there is a wide open door and a people pleading to be taught. He believes we must put more literature in their hands if we cannot reach them *individually*.

"The Mission Covenant and the Baptist churches were open to the message," he reports, "and it was blessed to see pastors in the lead in asking for teaching on the Holy Spirit and being so thrilled when seekers came asking for prayer. Those pastors get right down among their people and pray with them and for them. They are not just onlookers watching to see what happens.

"There is real value in the team effort. In 1966 I had my doubts about the expenditure of so much money for such a short time, but today I can see the cumulative effect.

"We had opportunities to get into



Rabbi Abraham, Dr. Becker, Rev. Council wait turn to minister In Trollhattan's Lutheran church. Note prevalence of young people.

some of the public schools. I was interested to see how the baptism in the Holy Spirit can help a young girl in real life who has had the typical problems of young girls in that area. A friend told her of our meeting. That night she came shyly forward and afterward talked with me and asked for prayer. Two nights later she came to a meeting we held in another town. She again came to our meeting in a third town. She was hungry, she wanted help, and gradually she gained confidence and was able to unburden her heart. It was wonderful to see the release that came with the knowledge and the acceptance of Christ's full forgiveness.

"One Mission Covenant minister who received the Baptism a year ago when the FGBMFI men were in Goteborg, pastors three small congregations on one of the many islands about 40 or 50 miles west of Goteborg. This year several of us spent an entire day with him. He took us into the public schools where we were able to witness in the classrooms. To

find that they were *willing* to let us bring the Gospel there shows the hunger that exists in many places in spite of any rules or traditions. God is truly at work in Sweden."

A Desire to Be Taught

Another team member, Ted Davis, was nearly overwhelmed by the same spiritual hunger of which Dr. Rae spoke. He reported that this hunger was evident among all faiths.

"Before leaving Stockholm we went to a Salvation Army church just outside the city for a morning service," he told me. "One man requested prayer for the baptism in the Holy Spirit, several came forward for salvation, others to rededicate their lives to the Lord. Jerry Rutkin, a Spirit-

filled Jew, brought the message. Gunnar Carlson and I gave testimonies, and I sang at each service. This was the basic pattern the Lord seemed to lead us in and we had a tremendous time.

"That evening we went to a Pentecostal church where we found a wonderful group of young people. In fact, the *young people* were very noticeable in *all* our meetings. They responded with music, they were spiritually hungry, they were interested, they wanted to know more about the teaching on the Holy Spirit.

"That evening, after the service, we had an unusual experience," Ted continued. "They had arranged for us to go to a dancehall. We were a bit apprehensive as we walked in, for it looked like a real rough-house. Our young people from the church set up their musical instruments and began to play and sing. Immediately the noise subsided and the crowd gathered around to listen. A former dope addict from Norway gave his testimony. He was a young man—and those kids really listened! The thing that thrilled our hearts was that the dancehall proprietor invited the Christian young people back for a return engagement!

"We headquartered in Dalarna while ministering in the surrounding province. We were constantly on the move and always there were the young people, coupled with the continual plea for a deeper spiritual



Art Katz, former Marxist, effectively ministered to students at Uppsala University and elsewhere. The youth are ready for revival

teaching. Most of them know the plan of salvation, a good many have received the Baptism, but they seem to hunger for a closer spiritual walk. In their questioning there was evidenced a deep desire to be taught."

"Please Come Back!"

"The Full Gospel people in Dalarna have done a tremendous piece of work," reports Brother Davis. "They

brought up the spiritual subject. It was strange to me to see how so many of these people believe truly with the head, but not with the heart. When that man finally realized there was a difference, God really began to deal with him. Those people want to know the truth. They want to see reality. They are looking forward to FGBMFI chapters being organized and their plea is "Please come back!"

"Ambassador Jerome Holland is proud and happy for what you are coming to do here. You are dynamic and first-rate representatives of America, and he wishes you well."

—Herbert George Ihrig, Jr., Labor Attaché, U. S. Embassy, Stockholm, Sweden.

are concerned and want to see an active chapter of FGBMFI established there. In fact, they are already converting some existing homes and building their own new ones so they can accommodate those who come with the Full Gospel ministry. Dalarna really thrilled us.

"We found the same spirit in many surrounding towns. The doors of various churches opened for us every night. They also had a luncheon meeting for us to which they invited a leading engineer. And because I work for IBM in America, they also invited one of the managers of IBM in Sweden. Those two men were deeply interested as we testified to what we had seen God do. Later that day I was invited to the IBM facility, and as we toured the place the manager

Trip to Trollhattan

Little did we realize, as we sped along the smooth highway between Karlstad and Trollhattan, that God had a very pleasant surprise awaiting us—a surprise that would cause all to rejoice, but that would especially gladden the heart of an editor.

The six of us didn't mind being packed like sardines in Per Erik Petersson's car, for we were busily and happily recounting the Lord's blessings. In the driver's seat was, of course, Per Erik himself (we affectionately referred to him as our "Transportation Minister"), "Direktor" of Tele Larm, an automobile telephone system that is rapidly covering all of Sweden; Hugo Larsen, "Disponent" of "Asfalt-Gummi-Plast," makers of Ramflex Rubber Roads and

other products using reclaimed rubber (he is the Swedish Generalagent for the U. S. Rubber Reclaiming Co. Inc. in the U.S.A.); Robert Pellen, Editor of ROSTEN; Rev. and Mrs. Harald Bredesen; and myself.

Trollhattan is an industrial town—its whole future development depends on engineering technology. But, situated as it is on the banks of the Göta, Sweden's mightiest river, it is undoubtedly one of the most attractive industrial towns in existence. The natural scenery round the river is majestic though the vast Trollhattan Falls are now harnessed. The streets are broad and clean, the parks green, the industrial buildings low and modern.

It was in this setting, at the time of the year when all the trees were so strikingly beautiful in their autumn colors, that some 100 persons, including several Lutheran ministers, had gathered in the Alpvärdshuset Hogbo Taverna overlooking the river to welcome us and to be reminded that God longs to see His children have the

very best in spiritual as well as material blessings.

Editor Hears "Good News"

After several in our party of six had spoken briefly, Rev. Bredesen told those at the luncheon of the move of the Holy Spirit in his own ministry and in the lives of others he knew, such as Pat Boone. As he spoke, I found my gaze alternating between the scene outside the windows opposite, and the face of a man across the table and three chairs to my left. It was a face that bespoke a gentle, kindly spirit—but the countenance was not a particularly joyful one. With paper and pencil readily available on the table before him, I surmised he was a newspaper reporter—one of many with whom we had already dealt on this trip. I was only partially correct, as I found out later.

As the waiters began to serve the coffee, Robert Pellen told us the press would like an interview and we fol-

(Continued on page 42)



Meeting in Stockholm's beautiful city hall, a great architectural work of the 20th century.

FOR YEARS I have been stressing a philosophy and method for achieving meaningful corporate worship experiences. Many of my brethren in the Church of Christ have expressed that there is nothing especially different about my emphasis now, that I've always stressed the importance of getting out of self and placing this lump of clay into the hands of the Master as the primary step toward acceptable worship. While it is

bore only to shallow water, but what joy to relinquish all "mineral rights" and let Him drill deeply to water which will come forth as an artesian well, ceaselessly flowing from within. "He who believes in me," as the scripture has said, "out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water." John records that Jesus was speaking "about the Spirit, which those who believe in him were to receive" (John 7:38, 39).

I was going to establish my position securely in the church-college community or "Know the reason why." Now God has shown me . . .

THE REASON

true that I was *teaching* truth, *encouraging* self denial and *urging* the casting out of tradition-for-tradition's-sake, still I was not *yielding* myself completely, nor *experiencing* the assurance of sonship I had been promised, nor *knowing* the hope that should be in all believers. I was not *feeling* the unfathomable peace of God, nor *hungering* and *thirsting* for the staples of eternal life and never allowing rivers of living water to flow from my heart. I had allowed God to

Before being filled with the Spirit I was choral director and chairman of the music department in a college related to the largest segment of the Church of Christ. I had settled down, aligned my ambitions with the growth of the school and found my security in a beautiful relationship with the church-college community. I had determined, even while a student in college, that I would choose that first job carefully and stick with it—none of this changing jobs and moving fre-

quently (signs of insecurity). I was going to establish my feet securely or "know the reason why!"

Now (bless that day) God has penetrated my thick skull and has shown me that reason why. "I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps" (Jer. 10:23). ". . . walk by the Spirit" (Gal. 5:16). ". . . to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace" and

about my new hope.

It must be pointed out that in this action there was no personal rancor involved, for which I praise the Lord. I believe that some of the administrators, as private individuals, would have been willing to keep me on the faculty. None drew the excluding line of fellowship in the church, but all felt it necessary to yield to political and economic pressures from the school's supporters. One administrator ex-

by JOE E. LEWIS

Spirit-filled Minister of The Church of Christ

WHY

". . . all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God" (Rom. 8:6, 14).

I remained on the faculty one week after receiving the pouring out of the Spirit, being given the choice of ceasing all public or private teaching on the subject of the Holy Spirit or of leaving the staff immediately. My decision had been made weeks earlier when I placed myself in the Lord's hands for His guidance. I could not cease to answer questions when asked

pressed the fear of reaction from influential constituents which might result in loss of students and funds or even the closing of the school. Another administrator and an administrative assistant expressed the same fears even after my leaving the staff, maintaining that my remaining a deacon in the church was hindering money-raising efforts for the college and even endangering her existence as well as that of some sister institutions. I have to conclude that the school is

not being operated on trusting faith, but I shall ever declare these men to be my beloved brethren in Christ, praying that it be no longer necessary for hearts to be hardened. And I shall continue to believe that they love me and have my best interests at heart.

The change in my heart was the result of an intensified need for a new avenue of personal growth; I began to sense the futility of self-effort as a means of obtaining a salvation I felt no assurance about. I was going to get to heaven if it killed me. So I prayed, frightened at the prospect, that God would send something into my life to wake me up and give me the desire to seek and pray and grow. Within a week He sent to me the testimony of three lives and an abundance of the Spirit's fruit in them that demanded my attention in spite of the "false doctrine" I heard. This witness and demonstration of the Spirit came through a fellow professor and two former students, all of whose lives I saw in severe contrast to what they had been. Timidity and self-conscious pride had been transformed into boldness and courage; preoccupation with self and the flesh had been changed into an expressed readiness to die for Jesus. All fervently desired their Lord's coming again. I saw calm assurance and unadulterated joy; in short, I saw what I had always believed the attitudes of a child of God should be.

During the next few days I ex-

perienced much mental torture, wanting to seek for what God had to say, but afraid of what I might find. Further, I was fearful of the possible consequences of finding something I had not previously held to be truth. There was actually a fear of reading without any preconceived notion. Per-

***I sensed the futility of
self-effort as a
means of obtaining
salvation.***

haps I was secretly hoping to find buttresses for my inherited beliefs. This I knew to be dishonest, and it soon became obvious that I would have to place myself in God's hands and pray fervently for guidance.

I began to read the New Testament. I re-read. I scoured. And all my seeking did not lead me to the beliefs I had always assumed to be true. There were no proof-texts (I had delighted in these) that said, in typical Church of Christ form:

HOLY SPIRIT

I. Miraculous Outpouring (Baptism): Apostles and Cornelius.

II. Miraculous (Spiritual) Gifts: only through the laying on of apostles' hands.

III. Gift of the Holy Spirit: the universal, automatic indwelling for

immersed believers; the only measure available today, to be likened to power-steering.

My conclusion was that the promised Spirit was meant to be the same for all time. Further, I found that to whatever degree I was voluntarily receptive, just to that degree would He work in me, pointing to and glorifying Jesus. So, on Monday night, January 30, 1967, my wife and I prayed for each other with the seemingly foolish, humbling laying on of hands, to be filled with His Holy Spirit, and to know the accompanying promises and allow them to be fulfilled in us. The atmosphere was filled, not with emotional frenzy or raised voices (enough to have frightened me out of my wits), but with complete calm

turned inside out, he should never ask for an anointing with the Spirit! While it is true that I immediately had victory in many areas of temptation, still I would not disillusion any who would wish for a Spirit-filling in order to preclude any further battles in life. Satan now brings even more violent accusations, but I am able to rely more fully on the power of Jesus' blood. The evil one now uses larger weapons, but my shield of faith has been enlarged and I can bear more. Praise the Lord. There is constant victory if I rely on the spiritual weapons the Lord has provided. He has promised that Satan will be kept within limits and that I shall never face a problem or battle in which I cannot share the victory already accomplished by Jesus Christ.

I mentioned earlier having stressed a philosophy and method for worship. The Spirit has weeded out of my teaching all practical philosophy and, along with it, such man-centered terminology as *flexibility* (*I did the bending*), *correlation*, *thoughtful preparation* and *advance instruction*. There was, in my teaching and writing, a lip service to the working of the Spirit, but I wanted to do His leading, manipulating the minds of men into the deeper spirituality for which I myself yearned. It was a real battle, when asked to "preside" at a gathering of about one hundred Spirit-filled believers, to let the Spirit do the moving, convincing, inspiring

No longer can I insist that the "Restoration Movement" is the basis of unity.

and peace and an acute awareness of the presence of Jesus Christ in the room.

"O precious, gentle, understanding Jesus, the highest of all spiritual gifts. I have acknowledged your sovereignty in every aspect of my existence, Lord." And that, brethren, has been the most painful experience of my life. If any does not want his life

and motivating. I actually sat down before others arrived and tried to put on paper (in the usual fashion) what was going to happen. When we began worshipping together the empty sheet of paper was folded in my pocket and the Spirit was in charge. I had to conclude that, although some motivating and inspiring had been done before my filling, it was *ersatz*, a less-than-authentic, self-trusting imitation.

Almost immediately after being filled I was aware of a feeling of kinship with and love for all who confess faith in their Lord. No longer can I insist that the "Restoration Movement" is the basis of unity. This is a man-centered approach, prone to attempts to define and pigeon-hole the infinite mind of God. Neither can I declare the Bible to be the basis for unity among believers, for in practice, at least, this has led to a legalistic insistence on private interpretation or even uniformity of belief. I do consider scripture a *tool* for achieving unity, and I long to study and search more than before, but scripture is not that which was lifted up to draw all men unto itself.

Jesus Christ has always been the standard for unity. When we let the Spirit do His work, we will experience Spirit-created unity around the *person* of Jesus Christ, who is forever central and supreme. Praise His name!

Through this Jesus I began to realize the love and grace of the Father and the assurance of my sonship and

salvation. On the evening following my being filled with the Spirit I began to pray out of gratitude for my sonship, and for several minutes no words passed my lips other than "Abba" and "Father." Later I read words I had seen a hundred times before, but now they meant something as the Spirit enlightened the eyes of my heart to see what had happened: "When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is the Spirit Himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God . . ." (Rom. 8:15b, 16).

A powerful prayer life now is mine. What joy to let the Spirit provide the words of praise when your own inadequate vocabulary can go only so far. What comfort to know that He can help you in praying as you ought concerning complicated situations and relationships.

It is now joy, not dutiful drudgery, to witness to others about the beauties of Jesus Christ. No more feeling persecuted and odd about having to knock on some door, but simply going where sent, doing what told, and living with full confidence in the designs of the Lord.

How blessed it is (and He said it would be) to be hungry and thirsty for righteousness—not one of my own creation, but His righteousness who became sin for me. How wonderful that my prayer has changed from "Don't come yet, Lord; I'm not good enough" to "Maranatha. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"



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SWEDEN

(Continued from page 35)

lowed our interviewer upstairs—Harald Bredesen, Carl Olivebring (Minister of Music, Swedish Baritone, and our interpreter on numerous occasions), and I. After the usual amenities, during which it was revealed that the "reporter" was Lennart Nyholm, "Redaktör" (Editor) and owner of *Elfsborgs Lans Annonsblad*, an influential newspaper in the area, Rev. Bredesen casually asked him if he knew the Lord as his Saviour. A puzzled expression came to the editor's face as, speaking English fluently, he asked in return, "Just what do you mean by *Saviour*?" Before any of us could answer, he followed with several other questions, "Why are you all so happy?" "Why have you come here?" He had been brought up a Lutheran and believed that inasmuch as he had been baptized into the church, that was about all there was to it.

A Strange Interview

Suddenly I became aware that I was involved in the strangest "interview" of my editorial career! And one of the briefest, for Mr. Nyholm's heart had without a doubt been prepared by the Holy Spirit for this confrontation. With the three of us—Bredesen, Olivebring, and I—all contributing to the short but lively discussion that followed, it was only minutes later that Harald asked the

all-important question: "Would you like to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?" Mr. Nyholm was ready for the question and answered in the affirmative. Rev. Bredesen requested him to repeat the prayer of confession after us, as we all bowed our heads.

When we went back to where most of the group was still congregated around the table, "Redaktör" Nyholm testified to his new experience. You should have heard that place ring with the praises of the Lord! I looked at my watch. The time was 4:15 p.m.

The following week we were back at Trollhattan for an evening service in the high State Church. Imagine my joy when Mr. Nyholm walked in with his camera and took a picture of the congregation. In fellowshiping with him later, he presented me with two editions of his newspaper which contained reports of the Airlift ministry, and a beautifully printed and expensively bound 218-page souvenir book of Trollhattan. He was still rejoicing in his new-found salvation.

The Lutheran Student Movement

The ministries of Harald Bredesen and Arthur Katz, backed up by the stirring testimonies of Airlift team leaders and members, were very effective among university and college students, many of whom are socialistic and communistic, and some who are even atheistic. Often we would invite these young people to our hotel



Nyholm and Becker; Editorial liaison

after a meeting, where we gave them further instruction, especially in relation to the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

In the great Filadelfia Church (Pentecostal) in Stockholm, where we held a service on Saturday night, October 3, Rev. Bredesen ministered to an audience of 2,000.

"A year ago when we were here," he told them, "we had the joy of meeting with a group of students from Uppsala University and later meeting with them several times at Uppsala. They now tell me the chaplain and the archbishop have become very interested. It was such a joy on this Airlift to see those students again. They came with a Lutheran minister and his wife who head up the Lutheran Student Movement for all of Sweden. They had to leave early, but they were very hun-

gry for the Baptism so we took them down into the prayer room and as we prayed together they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and began praising God in new tongues.

"Last fall we also had a meeting in a Lutheran church not far from here, and the mayor of that city received the Baptism. His son has had a wonderful encounter with the Lord and tonight he is taking me to a group of his friends who he hopes to lead to Christ.

"After having been in your homes and having gotten to know you as brothers and sisters in Christ, God gave me a great love for you—so much so that last fall I felt God was calling me back here with my family to live for as many years as He directed. This may still be God's plan, but at this moment I'm just so happy to be here again."

Varied Ministries

If I did not conclude shortly, it would require two issues of VOICE to tell the Swedish story instead of one. But I cannot close without referring to at least several more of my companions who contributed much to the success of this portion of the Airlift.

For instance—*Lorenzo Thurman*, whose singing was much in demand, and who invariably "brought down the house" with the joyful spirit (even when singing a "serious" song) he injected into each number; *Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Hudley*, whose con-

SWEDEN

secrated ministry in word and song blessed thousands during the three-week Airlift: *Clarence Council*, whose sincere vocal renditions of hymns and



Arnold Axelius Karlstad Chapter Pres

sermons were so effective; *Norm Shellgren*, businessman from Chicago (Norm's Carpet Service), and faithful supplier of many of the professional tapes upon which this report is based; *H. R. Howlett*, of Ontario, Canada, whose effervescent personality made any testimony-time a joyous experience; *Arthur B. Warmington*, whose quiet, positive relationship with Christ was so very evident as he spoke; *Robert Gooding*, who with his wife and daughter conducted a successful preaching ministry in Varnamo; *Rabbi Abraham Abraham*, missionary-evangelist from New York, whose uninhibited presentation of the Gospel was refreshingly different; and many others.

(Continued on page 46)



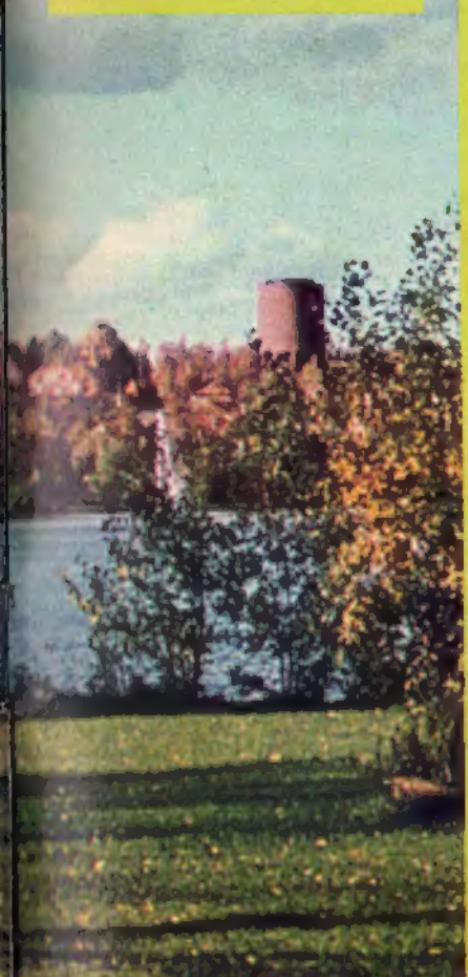
Service in Lutheran State Church, Karlstad.



Henry Carlson, Interpreter Jean Malm.



Bertil Claesson, Jonkoping Chapter President, with Mrs. Claesson.



Interview with editor of SMALANDS-FOLKBLAD, Jonkoping.



Fellowshipping in home of Mr. and Mrs. Olle Andersson in Orebro, are Robert Pellen and Hugo Larsen, left, and Per Erik Petersson, right.

We cannot close without also acknowledging the many courtesies shown us by the newspapers. This we appreciate greatly. Nor can we fail to acknowledge the many official courtesies extended to us. We would need the entire magazine to tell all the wonderful things that happened,

the splendid people we met, the glorious meetings and the gracious and delicious luncheons and banquets. Further news concerning God's move in Scandanavia (et al.) will appear in the May issue report covering Norway, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Russia. ☺

SIX SCRIPTURAL STEPS TO SALVATION

Men still cry, "What must I do to be saved?" The Bible provides a clear answer. Here are the six Scriptural steps which all must take to pass from death unto life:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). You must acknowledge in the light of God's Word that you are a sinner.

2. REPENT: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). You must see the awfulness of sin and then repent of it.

3. CONFESS: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9). "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10). Confess not to men but to God.

4. FORSAKE: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord . . . for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). Sorrow for sin is not enough in itself. We must want to be done with it once and for all.

5. BELIEVE: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "If thou shalt confess

with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). Believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

6. RECEIVE: "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:11,12). Christ must be received personally into the heart by faith, if the experience of the New Birth is to be yours.

Why not make your eternal decision right now: "I am convinced by God's Word that I am a lost sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died for sinners and shed His blood to put away my sins. I NOW receive Him as my personal Lord and Saviour and will by His help, confess Him before men."

When you have made this greatest of all decisions, please let us know about it so that we may rejoice together.

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April 28-May 1, 1971

Marott Hotel

Weasley Smith, Al Duren, Co-Chairmen
606½ W. Walnut St.
Kokomo, Ind. 46901

COLUMBIA, S.C. RALLY

April 30-May 1, 1971

Sheraton Columbia Inn
Robert Merrill, Chairman
225 "L" Ave., Cayce, S.C. 29033

TURLOCK/MODESTO REGIONAL

May 6-8, 1971

War Memorial Building
Enoch Christoffersen, Chairman
P.O. Box 337, Turlock, Calif.

JACKSON REGIONAL

May 13-15, 1971

Heidelberg Hotel
Dr. Wm. R. Keeler, Chairman
314 N. Magnolia St.
Laurel, Miss. 39440

SPRINGFIELD (MISSOURI) REGIONAL

May 20-22, 1971

Holiday Inn
Claud McCullley, Virgil Baldwin
Co-Chairmen
8510 Leeschen, St. Louis, Mo.

PARKERSBURG RALLY

May 14-15, 1971

Parkersburg Catholic High School
Dean Kelley, Chairman
3201 Fairview Ave., Parkersburg, W. Va.

GREEN LAKE REGIONAL

May 26-29, 1971

American Baptist Camp Grounds
Henry Carlson, Eugene Bailey
Co-Chairmen
584 W. Fulton, Chicago 6, Illinois

CHARLESTON REGIONAL

May 27-29, 1971

Francis Marion Hotel
Russ Gray, Paul Wichelhaus, Co-Chairmen
P.O. Box 8005, Charlotte 8, N.C.

PORTLAND REGIONAL

May 27-29, 1971

Sheraton Motor Inn
Bill Casselman, Chairman
1117 S.W. Stark, Portland, Oregon

LONG BEACH RALLY

May 28-29, 1971

Lafayette Hotel
Wendell Austin, Chairman
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